

MITCHELL J. LANDRIEU, MAYOR  
**CITY OF NEW ORLEANS**

October 12, 2017

The Honorable Jefferson Sessions  
Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530-0009

Dear Attorney General Sessions,

Thank you for confirming that the New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) is in full compliance with federal immigration law, including 8 U.S.C. § 1373.

Under my Administration, the New Orleans Police Department has and will continue to follow all federal laws. However, New Orleans will not be side-tracked by caustic, political rhetoric that seeks to make us fearful of others and scapegoat immigrants. The NOPD will continue to focus on the arrest and conviction of violent criminals, regardless of their immigration status.

The Department of Justice failed to note in its letter sent to me today that Chapter 41.6.1, Paragraph 5 of the NOPD's operation manual states that officers are to follow Section 1373(a), and that the policy does "not prohibit, or in any way restrict, any government entity or official from sending to, or receiving from, [ICE] information regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual."

As such, we continue to state unambiguously that Chapter 41.6.1 does not restrict officers and employees from requesting information regarding immigration status from federal immigration officers. Pursuant to standard training procedures, all officers and employees were notified about the policy in September 2016.

Instead of fear-mongering and false accusations, we urge you to work with mayors across the nation to tackle violent crime through smart, evidence-based policing.

Sincerely,



Mitchell J. Landrieu  
Mayor, New Orleans



Michael Harrison  
Superintendent, NOPD

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Attachment: NOPD Operations Manual: Chapter 41.6.1